REMARKS

Claims 1-9 and 41-77 are pending. Claims 1-9 and 41-77 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102. Claims 1, 42, 55 and 56 have been canceled. Claims 2-4, 6, 7, 9, 41, 43, 57 and 68 have been amended. Reconsideration and allowance of Claims 2-9, 41, 43-54 and 57-77 is requested.

Rejection of Claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102

In the Office Action, Claims 1-9 and 41-77 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,016,957 issued to Ohki et al.

Claims 1 and 42 have been canceled, thereby obviating the rejection of those claims.

Claim 43 recites (emphasis added):

> An integrated circuit card interface device, comprising:
> an application memory;
> an application engine for managing one or more applications in said application memory;
> an input/output module;
> a host interface; and
> one or more integrated circuit card interfaces;
> wherein the interface device is adapted to enable operation in accordance with multiple modes of operation, the multiple modes of operation comprising a standalone mode of operation in which the interface device is not operably connected to a host device via the host interface.

Regarding Claim 43, the Office Action stated that "Ohki teaches a standalone mode of operation in which the interface device is not operably connected to a host device via the host interface (col. 9, lines 66 - col. 10, line 1).

Ohki et al. teach, at column 9, line 65 to column 10, line 2 of the Ohki et al. patent:

> ... a clock signal to the IC card 10, a clock generating circuit 1107, a reader/writer circuit 1108 for reading data from and writing data into the IC card 10, a reader/writer control circuit 1109 for controlling the operation of the reader/writer 1108 ...

As can be seen, this section of the Ohki et al. patent neither teaches nor suggests "a standalone mode of operation in which [an integrated circuit card] interface device is not operably connected to a host device via [a] host interface," as recited in Claim 43. Nor do Ohki et al. appear to elsewhere teach or suggest an integrated circuit card interface device adapted to enable operation in accordance with a standalone mode of operation. To the contrary, Ohki et al. repeatedly teach that the IC card reader/writer described therein serves as an interface between an IC card and another device, such as a banking teller terminal, a POS terminal, a personal computer or a telephone (see, e.g., column 1, lines 9-17 and 42-48; column 4, lines 48-50 and 60-62; column 5, lines 3-6, 10-14 and 18-19; column 7, lines 38-48, 52-56 and 63-64; column 8, lines 1-2, 8-9, 17-18 and 48-49; column 9, lines 6-8 and 55-57; column 10, lines 15-17, 21-24 and 53-58; column 12, lines 60-67; column 13, lines 19-25; column 13, line 66 to column 14, line 2; column 14, line 65 to column 15, line 3; column 15, lines 4-8 and 28-30; column 16, lines 1-5, 23-27 and 32-36; and column 17, lines 32-39 of the Ohki et al. patent). In particular, Ohki et al. teach, at column 17, lines 32-39 of the Ohki et al. patent, near the end of the detailed description of their invention:

> According to this invention, as described above, an IC card reader/writer and a method of operation thereof are provided which are suitably used for interfacing between IC cards and various conventional equipment such as personal computers, telephone, POS terminals or information/communication systems and processing data in the IC cards in making transactions between the IC cards by electronic money.

That Ohki et al. teach an IC card reader/writer that serves as an interface between an IC card and another device is to be expected given the object of the invention taught by Ohki et al. As stated at column 1, lines 34-40 of the Ohki et al. patent:

> The object of the present invention is to provide an IC card reader/writer and a method of operation thereof suitably used with the above-mentioned electronic money system configured of conventional various equipment such as personal computers, telephones, POS terminals or information/communication systems for interfacing between these equipment and IC cards transacting with each other.

Not only do Ohki et al. not teach or suggest an integrated circuit card interface device adapted to enable operation in accordance with a standalone mode of operation, as recited in Claim 43, Ohki et al. appear to teach away from such an integrated circuit card interface device. At column 15, lines 28-67 of the Ohki et al. patent, Ohki et al. teach an embodiment of an IC card reader/writer having two IC card insertion slots for enabling communication of information between two IC cards inserted into those slots. If Ohki et al. at all contemplated operation of an IC card reader/writer in a standalone mode, such an embodiment would seem to be particularly suited for such operation. However, Ohki et al. teach that even that embodiment of an IC card reader/writer is connected to a personal computer, indicating that Ohki et al. simply did not

contemplate operation of an IC card reader/writer in a standalone mode.

In view of the foregoing, Claim 43 is allowable over the teaching of Ohki et al. Further, Claims 2-9, 41, 44-54 and 68, which each depend on Claim 43, either directly or indirectly, are therefore allowable as dependent on an allowable claim.

Claims 55 and 56 have been canceled, thereby obviating the rejection of those claims.

Claim 57 recites (emphasis added):

> An integrated circuit card interface device, comprising:
> an application memory;
> an application engine for managing one or more applications in said application memory;
> an input/output module;
> a host interface; and
> one or more integrated circuit card interfaces;
> wherein the interface device is adapted to enable operation in accordance with multiple modes of operation, the multiple modes of operation comprising a programming mode of operation in which the interface device is operably connected to an integrated circuit card via one of the one or more integrated circuit card interfaces, and/or to a host device via the host interface, to enable one or more programs to be added to, and/or deleted from, the interface device.

Regarding Claim 57, the Office Action stated:

> Ohki teaches a programming mode of operation in which the interface device (e.g., IC card reader; fig. 4) is operably connected (e.g., 1105; fig. 4) to an integrated circuit card (e.g., 10; fig. 4) via one of the one or more integrated circuit card interfaces (e.g., 111; fig. 4), and/or to a host device via the host interface, to enable one or more programs to be added to and/or deleted from, the interface device (col. 10, lines 27-32).

Ohki et al. teach, at column 10, lines 27-32 of the Ohki et al. patent:

> The loading/unloading circuit 1104 functions to load the IC card 10 automatically so that the connector 1105 and the contact means of the IC card 10 come into contact with each other. The CPU 1115 recognizes this contact and instructs the control circuit 1106 to activate the IC card 10 and supply power and clocks to the IC card.

This section of the Ohki et al. patent neither teaches nor suggests "a programming mode of operation in which [an integrated circuit card] interface device is operably connected to an integrated circuit card via [an integrated circuit card interface], and/or to a host device via [a] host interface, to enable one or more programs to be added to, and/or deleted from, the interface device," as recited in Claim 57. Rather, this section of the Ohki et al. patent describes how an IC card reader/writer establishes communication with an IC card to enable activation of the IC card and supply of power and clocks to the IC card. This section of the Ohki et al. patent does not teach anything regarding enabling program(s) to be added to, and/or deleted from, an IC card reader/writer. Nor do Ohki et al. appear to elsewhere teach or suggest a programming mode as recited in Claim 57.

Thus, in view of the foregoing, Claim 57 is allowable over the teaching of Ohki et al. Further, Claims 58-67, which each depend on Claim 57, either directly or indirectly, are therefore allowable as dependent on an allowable claim.

Claim 69 recites (emphasis added):

> A portable integrated circuit card interface device, comprising:
>
> means for operably connecting the interface device to an integrated circuit card to enable communication between the interface device and the integrated circuit card;
>
> means for operably connecting the interface device to a host device to enable communication between the interface device and the host device;
>
> means for operating the interface device in a standalone mode in which the interface device is not operably connected to a host device to enable communication between the interface device and the host device; and
>
> means for operating the interface device in a connected mode in which the interface device is operably connected to a host device to enable communication between the interface device and the host device.

As discussed above with respect to Claim 43, Ohki et al. do not appear to teach or suggest an integrated circuit card interface device adapted to enable operation in accordance with a standalone mode of operation; thus, Ohki et al. do not teach or suggest "means for operating [an] interface device in a standalone mode in which the interface device is not operably connected to a host device to enable communication between the interface device and the host device," as recited in Claim 69, and Claim 69 is allowable over the teaching of Ohki et al. Further, Claims 70-77, which each depend on Claim 69, either directly or indirectly, are therefore allowable as dependent on an allowable claim.

In view of the foregoing, it is requested that the rejection of Claims 2-9, 41, 43-54 and 57-77 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

Claims 1-9 and 41-77 were pending and were rejected. Claims 1, 42, 55 and 56 have been canceled. Claims 2-4, 6, 7, 9, 41, 43, 57 and 68 have been amended. In view of the foregoing, it is requested that Claims 2-9, 41, 43-54 and 57-77 be allowed. If the Examiner wants to discuss any aspect of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone Applicants' undersigned attorney at (408) 945-9912.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via facsimile to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Group Art Unit 2126, facsimile number (703) 872-9306, on May 26, 2005.

5-26-05 David R. Graham
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Respectfully submitted,

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